

**SANITIZED
COPY
FOLLOWS**

DOS Review Completed.

Page Denied

Page Denied

Authority 2012758

By 24 NARA Date 7/9/82

TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE
EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY

PEKING 008

June 20, 1973

TO: The White House for
HENRY A. KISSINGERFROM: AMBASSADOR BRUCE
USLO PEKING

SUBJECT: Letter to Chou En-Lai

Reference: WASHINGTON 002

CLASSIFIED BY
EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
EXEMPTION CATEGORY

1. In view of your urgent desire to place letter in hands of Chou En-Lai I requested and received appointment with Vice Foreign Minister Ch'iao Kuan-hua for four p.m. June 20 Peking time. Since Chiao has been designated my normal contact on sensitive matters of this nature, I considered it best to work through him in gaining access to Prime Minister Chou. DCS Jenkins and Holdridge accompanied me.

2. At beginning of meeting I informed Chiao about the letter, asked his advice as to best way to handle it, and suggested that he read it. I also noted that the Chinese might have already received a telegraphic version of the letter from PRCLO Washington. I then said that while I knew Prime Minister Chou and Vice Foreign Minister Chiao were constantly busy, if after reflecting on the letter they had any questions to ask concerning it I would be available.

3. Chiao indicated after reading the letter that they had not heard about it from the PRCLO Washington. As to the subject matter, he noted that the Chinese had already exchanged views with us via Ambassador Huang Chen and we knew what their position is. However, since there was a new element involved in the letter his side was prepared to make a study and would be prepared to discuss things further with our side if this appeared desirable. First, they would need to have a translation made.

4. When I asked my staff if they had any comments, Jenkins noted the main point to emphasize was that our agreement with the Soviets was phrased in such a way as to put us in a

TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE
EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY

Authority 9012958

By NARA Date 7/7/02

TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE
EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY

2

position to take whatever action we thought necessary if the Soviets violated the agreement. This action would be directed against Soviet efforts to establish hegemony.

5. I also observed that the last paragraph of the letter entertained the hope that the PRC would not make any statement about the agreement which would be particularly embarrassing to us. Chiao responded with the comment that his side would abide by the principles laid down in the Shanghai joint communique ("which has been agreed to by both sides") and would not depart from those principles. They would study the letter but he could tell us now that they would reaffirm the position he had just given.

6. The conversation then shifted to pleasantries, and Chiao concluded by reaffirming that after further consideration his side would exchange views with us if they had comments to make.

7. As a point of background interest, Chou En-lai will probably be even busier than usual over the next few days hosting the visit to Peking of the Head of State of Mali. The preparations for this visit are elaborate, involving among other things a banquet on June 21 for all the ambassadors of countries recognizing Mali. I do not yet know whether he will accompany the Head of State to other spots in China.

END OF MESSAGE.

Chiao indicated after reading the letter that they had not heard about it from the PRC in Washington. As to the subject of the letter, he noted that the Chinese had already expressed their views with us in the past. Huang Chen and we know what their position is. However, since there was a new element in the letter, his side was prepared to make a statement. He would be prepared to discuss things further with our side. This appeared significant. First, they would need to have a translation made.

TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE
EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY